

## COMMERCIAL RELATIONS

*Exchange of notes at Ciudad Trujillo November 14, 1942*

*Entered into force November 14, 1942*

*Terminated March 24, 1944*<sup>1</sup>

56 Stat. 1617; Executive Agreement Series 274

*The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to the American Minister*

[TRANSLATION]

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CIUDAD TRUJILLO  
DISTRICT OF SANTO DOMINGO  
*November 14, 1942*

21430

MR. MINISTER:

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that under date of August 26, 1941 a commercial agreement was signed in the city of Port-au-Prince by means of which the Dominican Republic and that of Haiti, in their status of contiguous countries, established a special treatment in the commercial relations existing between the two nations. The exchange of ratifications of this commercial agreement was effected in this capital on March 23 of the present year.

This agreement establishes, among other stipulations, the reduction of Dominican import customs duties according to a list specifying the products which, upon being imported from Haiti, are to be introduced to our country with the reductions in the Dominican import tariff provided in that list.

The Government of the Dominican Republic has always supported the multilateral development of international commerce on the basis that nations may have access to the said commerce on equal conditions and that they may be able to obtain, through such conditions, the raw materials required for a satisfactory and prosperous development of their respective economies.

In this connection I have the honor to refer to the formula of contractual tariff preferences between contiguous countries which was recommended

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<sup>1</sup>Date of termination of Haitian-Dominican commercial treaty of Aug. 26, 1941, as amended Mar. 24, 1942.

by the Inter-American Economic and Financial Advisory Committee. It is in conformity with the spirit of that recommendation of the aforesaid inter-American body that the above-mentioned commercial agreement between the Dominican Republic and that of Haiti was concluded.

Notes were exchanged between the two Governments on March 24, 1942 by means of which certain products are added to the lists originally agreed upon.

As the *modus vivendi* concluded between the Dominican Republic and the United States of America on September 25, 1924<sup>2</sup> provided that tariff reductions which our country may grant to other countries must benefit, to the measure indicated by the principles relative to the most-favored-nation clause, like products of United States manufacture and origin, I request Your Excellency to be good enough to inform this chancellery whether the Government of the United States of America, in view of the above-stated considerations, will agree not to invoke the clauses of the agreement of September 25, 1924 mentioned above for the purpose of claiming the benefit of the tariff preferences granted to the contiguous State of Haiti, which my Government considers to be in harmony with the conditions of the form recommended by the Inter-American Economic and Financial Advisory Committee.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest consideration.

A. DESPRADEL

His Excellency

AVRA M. WARREN,

*E.E. and Minister Plenipotentiary  
of the United States of America,  
Legation.*

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*The American Minister to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CIUDAD TRUJILLO, D.R., *November 14, 1942*

No. 21

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note of today's date in which you reiterate the adherence of your Government to the principle of promoting the multilateral development of international trade on the unconditional most-favored-nation basis and refer to the exclusive tariff reductions to the Republic of Haiti specifically provided for in the Commercial Agreement between the Dominican Republic and that country signed on August 26, 1941, as modified by an exchange of notes on March 24,

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<sup>2</sup> TS 700, *ante*, p. 216.

1942 by which certain products were added to the list specified in the Commercial Agreement. In this connection you mention the contractual formula for tariff preferences to contiguous countries recommended on September 18, 1941 by the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, and inquire whether, in view of the Committee's recommendation and considering the special and unusual conditions affecting the trade between the Dominican Republic and Haiti, my Government would be willing to refrain from claiming, under the provisions of the *modus vivendi* between our two countries of September 25, 1924, the benefit of the tariff preferences to the Republic of Haiti specifically provided for in the Commercial Agreement of August 26, 1941 as modified by the exchange of notes of March 24, 1942.

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that my Government, in view of the considerations set forth, agrees not to invoke the pertinent provisions of the *modus vivendi* for the purpose of claiming the benefit of such tariff preferences.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

A. M. WARREN

His Excellency

ARTURO DESPRADEL,

*Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,  
Ciudad Trujillo, D.R.*